

FY 2014 CDBG Application – (Grant due date February 14, 2014)

WARE RIVER VALLEY

(Warren, Ware, & Hardwick)

PUBLIC HEARING AGENDA

January 21, 2014

1. INTRODUCTION: Chris Dunphy, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission
2. CDBG OBJECTIVE - The Community Development Block Grant was authorized by Congress, and is funded under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has designated the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) as the state's administering agency for CDBG funding. The primary objective is: *"...to develop viable, urban communities by providing decent housing and suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities principally for low- and moderate-income persons."* DHCD will fund eligible projects designed to meet this objective.
3. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY – Previously discussed and approved
4. REVIEW WARREN & WARE & TARGET AREA MAPS AND THEIR PURPOSE.
5. DESCRIBE PROPOSED PROGRAMS

Ware River Valley: Joint-community Application - \$1,000,000:

- Housing Rehabilitation - \$270,000
Financial Assistance will be made available to eligible homeowners for the rehabilitation of approximately 9 or more households throughout the towns of Warren, Ware and Hardwick. Up to \$35,000 will be made available for housing units with special considerations (Ex. Lead paint) and up to \$30,000 for all other units. Investor-owners can also take advantage of the program, but property owners will be required to provide a 25% match of the project cost or enter into a 0% loan for 50% of the total project cost payable over 15 years.
- Adult Learning and Basic Education at the Ware Adult Learning Center - \$80,000
This is a social service project intended to provide adult literacy and basic education services to Ware, Hardwick and Warren residents. The primary location will be at the Ware Adult Learning Center, Main Street, Ware, MA. The project is to be carried out by staff of The Literacy Project and Ware Adult Learning Center. **Board of selectmen approval is required to use TLP/WALC services for this project.**
- Pleasant Street Improvement Project, West Warren - \$535,000
Public works improvements to Pleasant Street including street and sidewalk restoration, drainage improvements, installation of approximately 300 l.f. of water main (fire protection), and associated project area accoutrements.
- Administrative support and services - \$115,000
Overall grant management including technical and administrative support, committee development and support, planning, travel, advertising, training and education, file maintenance, printing, accounting, communications, supplies and material, payments, etc.

TOTAL GRANT = \$1,000,000

6. SUPPORT OF THE PROGRAM – Testimony, Ware and Hardwick, Comments, Etc.
7. BOARD OF SELECTMEN APPROVAL
Formal vote of approval and support for the proposed FY 2014 Warren/Ware River Valley joint community application with the towns of Ware and Hardwick.

Proposed Motion: *The town approves the submission of the proposed FY 2014 grant application and their respective activities to the DHCD, and furthermore to authorize the CEO and CFO to sign required forms when prepared. The town also acknowledges and accepts the recommendation of the Community Development Advisory Committee and include a request for funding for the Ware Adult Learning Center, a program of The Literacy Project.*

9. OTHER CDBG COMMENTS

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A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Nancy J. Lowell".